

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 09/723,077
Filing Date: 11/27/2000
Applicant: Daisuke Suzuki
Group Art Unit: 1746
Examiner: Monique M. Wills
Title: Gasket Assembly
Attorney Docket: 00-010 (Previously 8409-00042)

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed 3/26/2003, Paper No. 3. The Examiner set a three month due date for response, and therefore, this response is timely filed.

Restriction/Election Requirement

In the Office Action, the Examiner subjected the pending claims (1-50) to a Restriction Requirement, stating that Claims 1-19 and 29-50 (Group I) are drawn to a distinctly different invention from that of Claims 20-28 (Group II), and required Applicant to elect one of the Groups. Accordingly, Applicant hereby elects to continue the prosecution of the claims of Group I (Claims 1-19 and 29-50), and hereby cancels the claims of Group II (20-28). This election is made with traverse.

FAX RECEIVED
APR 18 2003
GROUP 1700

Applicant reserves the right to continue prosecution of Group II (Claims 20-28) in a Divisional application which will claim priority from the instant application.

Attorney of Record

Applicant notes that in paragraph three of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that she attempted to contact Michael Tucker to request an oral election to the restriction requirement. Applicant draws the Examiner's attention to the Revocation of Power of Attorney, and new Power of Attorney, filed on March 26, 2003, in which A. Michael Tucker was removed as the attorney of record, and Ronald W. Wangerow was appointed as the new attorney of record. Applicant requests that the Examiner address all future correspondence to Mr. Wangerow as indicated in Applicant's Customer Number data (CN 29293), and as reflected below.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this Response is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (734) 354-5445.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: APR. 17, 2003

By: Ronald W. Wangerow
Ronald W. Wangerow
Reg. No. 29,597

USPTO Customer No. 29293
FREUDENBERG-NOK GENERAL PARTNERSHIP
Intellectual Property Department
47690 East Anchor Court
Plymouth, MI 48170-2455
Direct Line: (734) 354-5445
Facsimile: (734) 451-2547

FAX RECEIVED
APR 18 2003
GROUP 1700

Serial No. 09/723,077

Page 2 of 2

OFFICIAL

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	09/723,077	
	Filing Date	November 27, 2000	
	First Named Inventor	Daisuke Suzuki	
	Group Art Unit	1745	
	Examiner Name	Monique M. Wills	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	3	Attorney Docket Number	00-010

ENCLOSURES <i>(check all that apply)</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
Remarks FAX F-30 APR 18 2103 GROUP		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Ronald W. Wangerow, Reg. No. 29,597 Freudenberg-NOK General Partnership
Signature	<i>Ronald W. Wangerow</i>
Date	April 17, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION			
I hereby certify that this correspondence and the enclosures listed above are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 OR facsimile transmitted to the US Patent Office, Group Art Unit 1746, fax number (703) 872-9310 on this date: April 17, 2003			
Typed or printed name	Ronald W. Wangerow, Reg. No. 29,597		
Signature	<i>Ronald W. Wangerow</i>	Date	April 17, 2003

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.